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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

EXPEDITED HANDLING
AFTER FINAL PRACTICE

Xiang-Dong YIN et al.

Art Unit: 1744

Application No.: 10/662,404

Examiner: Joyner, Kevin

Filed: September 16, 2003

Attorney Dkt. No.: 70566-0016

For: APPARATUS FOR STEAM STERILIZATION OF ARTICLES (as-amended)

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 5, 2007

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 13, 2007, Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection. In support of this request, arguments are set out below in response to the rejection of the claims under the heading of the rejected claims and applied prior art.

CLAIMS 1-5 UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 6,521,047 TO BRUTTI ET AL. (BRUTTI), UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 5,835,678 TO LI ET AL. (LI), AND UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 6,067,403 TO MORGANDI.

In review, the Examiner alleges that Brutti discloses all of the features of claim 1 including that the temperature sensors are connected to the stainless steel cup, and that the temperature sensor (56) is connected to the stainless steel thin wall that is capable of receiving a portion of water from